in the past that due to lack of educational material for the patients there was difficulty for the health care team to involve the patient as an active member of the diabetes treatment. Presently, books on diet and exercise for diabetics are being published to create an awareness among the patients on the important role played by these two factors and the patient's own role for the adequate control of diabetes.

(c) and (d) The National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, of the ICMR has been doing research on the hypoglycemic effect of fenugreek (methi) in normal and diabetic volunteers in small samples. Positive results have been observed by the NIN in lowering blood glucose in the diabetic and also in controlling these diabetic symptoms of poly-uria, polydypsia and polyphagia. Long-term trials are now being planned to establish the efficacy of fenugreek in controlling diabetes.

Import of Interferon

1965. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any R & D work has been initiated in the production of "Interferon" through new genetic tools and if so, details thereof;

(b) whether any Interferon has ever been imported into the country to fight any disease/ailments; and

(c) what is the present status of Interferon R & D in the world and Indias'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No Research and Development work has been initiated in the production of interferon in India.

(b) Interferon has not been imported into the country to fight any disease/ailment.

(c) In U.S.A. human interferon gene has been cloned.

A-I Flights

1966. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India is running flights as a profit-making commercial agency; and

(b) whether Government propose to give due attention to develop air traffic with Africa, South America and Eastern Countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Commercial considerations are normally paramount while taking a decision regarding introduction/continuation of an air service.

(b) Air-India operates adequate number of services on the Japan, Hong Kong and Africa routes to cater to the traffic needs. Due to limited traffic potential, Air-India does not have any plans to operate to South America at present.

1967. [*Withdrawn*].

Happiness Hormone

1968. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new "Happiness Hormone" or indigenous morphine has been synthesised and is likely to overcome the problem of drug addict and if so, details thereof; and